

## Abstract

A method is described for determining in a non-invasive manner the trade class, the trade value, the market value and the quality of a body of a slaughtered animal on the basis of optical image processing, which method fulfils the conditions of the relevant official rules and regulations as well as functions accurately, rapidly and also in a cost effective manner.

In accordance with the invention the result data, obtained using tests on cut pieces of a sufficient number of carcasses, of weight percentages from yields of individual pieces with the characteristic parameters and measured values determined from two halves of a carcass in the ham and loin region are correlated with each other using the total weight and therefrom relational data are obtained and during the course of the slaughtering operation in order to estimate the yields of individual pieces a simulation calculation is performed with the available relational data taking into consideration the total weight of two associated halves of a carcass and the characteristic parameters and measured values determined for this specifically in the ham and loin region.

In one variant, the yields of individual pieces are estimated only on the basis of characteristic parameters and measured values determined specifically in the ham and loin region.

(cf. Figure 1).